

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SANA 02845 251353Z

ACTION AID-20

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IGA-02 SS-15 PRS-01 /049 W

-----065829 251357Z /46

P 251220Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1890

UNCLAS SANA 2845

USAID/W FOR DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR NOOTER AND ASSISTANT  
ADMINISTRATOR WHEELER FROM AMBASSADOR SCOTES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, YE

SUBJECT: YARG AWARD TO AID DIRECTOR

1. LATE IN THE EVENING OF JULY 23, I WAS REQUESTED TO APPEAR  
AT THE REPUBLICAN PALACE WITH AID DIRECTOR AL RUIZ THE NEXT  
MORNING TO ALLOW YAR PRESIDENT AL-HAMDI TO PRESENT A SCROLL  
OF APPRECIATION FOR RUIZ'S SERVICES.

2. THIS UNUSUAL AND SIGNIFICANT REQUEST WAS REINFORMED THE  
NEXT DAY BY THE PRESENCE OF MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AL-  
ASNAJ AND MINISTER OF STATE AHMAD ABDOH SAID AT THE MEETING  
WITH PRESIDENT AL-HAMDI. THE CERTIFICATE CITED RUIZ'S  
"MAGNIFICENT SERVICES" AND WAS NOTHING LESS THAN A REPUBLICAN  
DECREE (NO. 50 OF 1977).

3. AL-HAMDI, NORMALLY A TERSE MAN WITH NO GRANDILOQUENT QUALITIES  
SPOKE AT LENGTH OF THE VALUE HE PUT ON THE SERVICES  
OF AL RUIZ AND THE USAID MISSION HERE. HE NOTED THAT RUIZ AND  
MISSION WERE ALMOST IDENTICAL, GROWING OUT OF RUIZ'S  
RETURN IN 1973 AFTER RESUMPTION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS THE  
YEAR BEFORE. HE SAID HE FOUND IT ESPECIALLY NOTABLE THAT  
RUIZ HAD SERVED IN YEMEN IN GOOD TIMES AND IN BAD AND WOULD  
LEAVE THE YAR WITH A NEW FOUNDATION FOR GOODWILL AND CLOSE  
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CONTACT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC.

4. THE INTERVIEW GOT FULL TV COVERAGE THAT NIGHT.

5. COMMENT: I KNOW OF NO OTHER FOREIGNER WHO HAS EVER RPT  
EVER BEEN SINGLED OUT FOR SUCH AN EXCEPTIONAL COMPLIMENT  
BUT IN CASE OF AL RUIZ I AM NOT SURPRISED. HIS LONG AND VERY

SUCCESSFUL SERVICE HERE HAS MADE HIM THE BEST KNOWN AMERICAN  
IN YEMEN. HE WILL BE SORELY MISSED BY HIS YEMENI FRIENDS  
AND AMERICAN COLLEAGUES, BUT HE WILL TAKE AWAY THE SATIS-  
FACTION OF KNOWING THAT HIS UNSTINTING EFFORTS HAVE CREATED  
A NEW AMERICAN PRESENCE AND IMAGE IN YEMEN AND CARRIED THROUGH  
ON THE INTERESTS WHICH LED TO THE RESUMPTION OF RELATIONS IN  
THIS PART OF THE ARAB WORLD. THE MANY PROJECTS WHICH HE  
LEAVES BEHIND FOR HIS SUCCESSOR, PLUS A CAPABLE AND WELL-  
MOTIVATED STAFF AND REMARKABLE COMPOUND, WILL ALLOW HIS  
SUCCESSOR TO BEGIN ON VERY FIRM FOUNDATIONS.  
SCOTES

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HONOR AWARDS, ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENT AGENCIES  
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**Subject:** YARG AWARD TO AID DIRECTOR  
**TAGS:** EAID, YE, (RUIZ, AL)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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